

Remarks

The RESPONSE TO REQUEST FOR CORRECTED FILING RECEIPT mailed October 15, 2004 indicated that the Office was unable to comply with Applicants' request to add continuity under 35 U.S.C. § 120 without the Applicants supplying the relationship to the earlier filed application in an Application Data Sheet or amendment to the first page of the specification. In response, Applicants have now amended the specification to include the relationship to pending prior patent applications. Applicants believe that the specification is now in compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 120.

In the Official Action mailed on June 20, 2005, the Examiner:

(1) rejected claims 12-16 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,652,588; and

(2) objected to claims 17 and 18 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicated that claims 17 and 18 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to Item (1) above, Applicants have enclosed a terminal disclaimer to overcome the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting rejection. This terminal disclaimer is believed to overcome the rejection and place claims 12-16 in condition for allowance.

In response to Item (2), and as stated above, the enclosed terminal disclaimer is believed to overcome the

double patenting rejection and place claims 12-16 in condition for allowance. Therefore, claims 17 and 18, which depend from claim 12 (either directly or indirectly) would no longer depend from a rejected base claim and are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, claims 12-18 are believed to be in condition for allowance, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

In the event that any additional fees may be required in this matter, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

 10/20/2005

Margaret M. Slezak, Esq.

Registration No. 55,625

Pandiscio & Pandiscio, P.C.

470 Totten Pond Road

Waltham, MA 02451-1914

Tel. No. (781) 290-0060

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